

Atty. Docket No. 610.0002
Amdt. Dated December 7, 2005
Appl. No. 10/830,144

PATENT

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following paragraph:

[0013] The present invention makes use of lightweight and rugged materials which allows the article to be carried into the field. This invention also allows the use user to apply the tourniquet article with one hand instead of two which can be a crucial lifesaving feature in the battlefield when assistance from a medic is not immediately available and the injured still has some ability to prevent a large loss of blood in his or her body. The tourniquet can also be used in emergency first aid for animals such as horses.

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following:

[0016] The separate sections can be joined or combined by sewing, bonding or by ~~used~~ using any suitable means. In the present embodiment, webbing B and section A are sewn together. The looped end of Velcro® Section A is positioned so the bottommost layer of loop is in contact with the limb when the tourniquet article 10 is used. Section A is used in this embodiment to increase friction between the tourniquet article 10 and the limb and to provide padding between webbing B and the tissue of the limb. Section A also helps protect the skin and soft tissue from pinching and bruising that can be associated with the use of the tourniquet article 10. Section A also helps the user in applying tourniquet article 10 by holding the tourniquet in place and allowing the user to apply article 10 with one hand.

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following:

[0018] In this embodiment, cap F is positioned and attached to the top of base 12. Cap F maintains the strap H in proximity to the base 12 and as such maintains strap H in flat orientation in relation to base 12. Cap F is a 2 inch by 2 inch section of nylon scuba webbing sewn on to base 12 along the two edges or outer sides of webbing B. Cap F can also be made of a plastic sleeve, or a combination of plastic and polypropylene

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webbing which can be used to increase the rigidity of cap F. Cap F can also be bonded or attached in any suitable manner to base 12. Cap F ~~functions~~ helps maintain the form of strap H when strap H is being tightened and it also helps prevent ~~prevents~~ twisting of the strap H before strap H is tightened around the top of base 12. Cap F ~~accomplishes~~ maintains the form of strap H by working in conjunction with base 12 acting as a rigid sleeve or a sandwich in which strap H must pass through before making contact with the limb.

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following paragraph:

[0021] Buckle D is a quick release type buckle which allows the user to quickly release strap H. The quick release buckle used in the present embodiment is a standard one inch buckle tapped to accept a 1/4 inch machine screw. Buckle D can be any other suitable buckle such as a Fastek 1 and 1/2 inch buckle and it can also be a different size and dimension. The machine screw threads into the top of the buckle and the head rests on the base of the buckle. When engaged, Buckle D prevents accidental loosening of the tourniquet should buckle D be accidentally bumped or moved while the patient is being transported. Further, cap screw B E can be used to help prevent movement of the strap H. In this embodiment, optional cap screw B E is positioned in the top of ~~cap F~~ buckle D so as to allow the user to tighten the screw down the strap H further securing the strap H against unintended loosening. Cap screw E is a 1/4".times.5/8" socket head cap screw, but it can be any desired width and length.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following paragraph:

[0022] Strap H is made of 16 point heavy weight polypropylene webbing that is 1 inch in width and 46 inches in length. It can also be made of any suitable size or material. For example, it can range from 1 inch in width to 2 and {fraction (1/2)} inches in width. It can also be longer or shorter than 46 inches in length, and the material it is made of can be nylon webbing instead of ~~polypropylene~~ polypropylene. One end of strap H is routed around the quick release buckle and attached to base 12. In the present embodiment,

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Strap H is sewn to base 12. The free end of Strap H is first routed through ring K and attached to base 12. From the point of attachment to base 12, the free end of Strap H is then routed through the aperture in handle G and sewn back onto itself forming a small loop that holds the handle in position with strap H. This loop is designed to provide enough slack so that twisting handle G does not cause base 12 to bind or twist. Once strap H is positioned to hold handle G, it is routed through the area above base 12 and below cap F so that the other end remains free to use by the user to be placed into the quick release buckle D in order to tighten the tourniquet article 10. Strap H can also be secured directly to base 12 with an allowance for a loop to run through handle G.